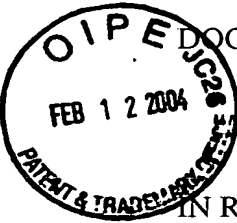


Amdt 9/c
Ellis
2/22/04



DOCKET NO: 0557-4983-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
TAKAFUMI HOSHIZAWA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: CHANG, S.
SERIAL NO: 09/619,672 :
FILED: JULY 19, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3625
FOR: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR :
KEEPING CONSUMABLE ITEMS IN AN
IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated November 12, 2003, favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the present response, is respectfully requested:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

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GROUP 3600